

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 7, 11, 13, 15-26, 28, 29, 33, 35, 43, and 44 are pending in the present application. Claims 5, 42, and 45-46 have been cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Applicants expressly reserve the right to file continuing applications directed to the deleted subject matter. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 5 pursuant to comments made by the Examiner. No new matter has been added by way of amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejections and allow claims 1-4, 7, 11, 13, 15-26, 28, 29, 33, 35, 43, and 44. In any event, the Examiner is requested to enter the above amendments for the purposes of further prosecution.

Allowable Subject Matter Identified in the Office Action

The Examiner states that claims 5, 11, 13, 15, 21-26, 28, 29, 33, 35, 43, and 44 have been fully considered and are free of the art and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

The Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102 Should be Withdrawn

Claims 1-3, 16, 18, and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by J. Chem. Soc. Chem. Commun., 1991, 5:306 (Matsumoto *et al.*). Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of original claim 5, thereby obviating the rejection of this claim as well as dependent claims 2, 3, 16, 18, and 19. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are therefore respectfully requested.

The Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103 Should be Withdrawn

Claims 1, 2, 3, 7, and 17-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 3,920,739 (Suda *et al.*), in view of Chem. Rev., 1996, 96:3147, 3149 (Patani *et al.*). Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of original claim 5, thereby obviating the rejection of this claim as well as dependent claims 2, 3, 7, and 17-20. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are therefore respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe the present claims are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. Applicants believe that no other fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper other than those specifically authorized herewith.

Should any other fees be deemed necessary to effect the timely filing of this paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 07-1392. If the Examiner has any outstanding issues with the pending claims, he is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (919) 483-1467 for expeditious handling.

Respectfully submitted,

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